

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
July 31, 2015

Congratulations to Shari Howell who will take over the position of City Clerk, effective August 6. Please congratulate Shari if you get a chance and feel free to contact her to make inquiries about City Commission meetings, minutes, agendas, public meetings, public records requests, etc. City Clerk Marilyn McCorvey will be retiring on August 7 after serving the City for 13 years.

The City of Clewiston is currently accepting nominations for the Outstanding Community Service Award for 2015. If you know of someone who you feel deserves this honor, please stop by City Hall and pick up a nomination form. The deadline for nominations is next Friday, August 7, 2015.

Dates to Remember:

August 11, 2015 - Hendry-Clewiston Recreation Advisory Board

August 13, 2015 – City Commission Workshop

August 17, 2015 – City Commission Meeting

Staff Reports

Golf Course Director Rush reports:

- Get all Clewiston Golf Course news by signing up on Constant Contact. Go to the City of Clewiston website, the golf link and sign up on Constant Contact. You will be automatically put on the golf course e-mail.
- United States Sugar Employee Golf Tournament has been scheduled for Saturday, August 15, 2015.
- Preparations are in place to start the rebuild of #15 Ladies Tee.
- Golf lessons are available, contact Robbie Rush 863-983-1448.
- Congratulations on a national level, Carol Giddens and Jodi Rush won their flight in South Carolina Last week in the Executive Womens Golf Tournament.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- **E-books launching !** This Friday July 31, at 10:00 a.m. in the Hendry County Library System. Make sure you have your Library card and PIN to get your free e-book download. You are able to download your books to ***Kindles, iPads, Nooks, or other tablets*** with this system.
- The SW Florida Library Network (SWFLN) held their annual summer general meeting in Clewiston on Tuesday, July 28. The event was sponsored by U.S. Sugar, which provided refreshments and a tour of their site. The attendees, who hailed from various

counties in SW Florida, such as Monroe, Collier, Lee, Charlotte, and others, all expressed pleasure at the royal treatment they received while here. Big thanks to the U.S. Sugar for going all out to make this event a success, as well as the Chamber and Butch Wilson from the Museum.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- An attempted carjacking/robbery was reported late Saturday night on Caribbean. The victim drove the suspects out to Harlem and dropped them off before coming back into town and reporting the incident. Investigators have identified a suspect and are attempting to apprehend him.
- The closure of the Boat Basin after sunset has calmed things down a bit in that area. We intend to continue with this approach for the time being.
- Patrol Officers on foot chasing suspicious loiters at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning, stumbled upon a stash of gumball machines which had been reported stolen/missing from various businesses around town. The machines were brought to the PD for identification and processing.
- The rate of retail theft is higher than I recall it ever being. The large retailers are being especially hard hit. We are making arrests in the vast majority of those cases, but it is driving our rate of offenses very high.
- Officers responded to a burglary of an occupied dwelling at Lopez Place Apartments. The victim's ex-boy friend shattered the glass door with a brick and then entered the home and battered the victim. The suspect fled prior to the officer's arrival, but was later located and arrested.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the weekly activity:
 - 1196** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 626** Complaints Investigated
 - 35** Arrests Made
 - 46** Traffic Citations Issued
 - 6** City Ordinance Violations
 - 14** New Code Enforcement Cases Opened
 - 10** Rental Inspections Conducted
 - 72** Merchant Escorts Provided
 - 27** Alarms Responded To
 - 4** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control: The reality of the rainy season has finally hit. Mosquito activity is in high gear. Reports all across the State are confirming mosquito populations on the rise. The contractor will be spraying two nights a week. Residents are reminded to call the Public Works department at 983-1471 to register a complaint and let us know if you have a special event going on so special attention can be given to your request.
- Street Maintenance: (1) New sod has been installed at City Hall and five Dwarf Royal Palms have been ordered.
- US27 Rebuild: Forty-five days into the project and everything is still on track. Only minor mishaps have been reported and the contractor responded quickly to resolve the issue. The milling and base paving portions have been completed and this activity will be

suspended until the traffic control devices and pedestrian crossing work has been completed.

- Boat basin Project: The Notice of Award was issued to Weekley Asphalt for the work at the Boat Basin and the contract has been signed. This work should begin very soon. Residents are reminded that the main parking and launch area will be closed for maintenance for a couple of days so please use the launch on the Lake side of the levee.
- West Pasadena Project: Bids for the drainage and paving are due at 2:00 p.m. in City Hall on August 13. The City Engineer reports that there is activity on the bid as several inquiring phone calls have come in.
- Civic Park Rebuild: Staff is scheduled to pour the column and retaining wall/bench foundations this week.

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- Sports Complex staff began aerating the game fields earlier this week. Thank you to Joey Miller at Wedgworth Fertilizer for donating a ton of fertilizer again this year for our game fields.
- The C.S. Mott Pool and James Mason Pool will extend its hours of operation for community swim beginning Monday July 27th. Both pools will be open from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Monday – Saturday and 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Sundays.
- Because of the weather closing the James Mason Pool several times last week, adult swimming lessons have been extended this week in order to complete the course.
- Clewiston Recreation CIT's and LIT's volunteered 2,670 hours of their time this Summer to assist in Summer Camp, at the swimming pools, in the Parks and at the ballfields. That averages out to 148.44 hours per volunteer or 4.95 hours a day to the City of Clewiston. A cost "value" of \$21,376.00!
- Michael Johnson volunteered 290.50 hrs. this summer and Kiara Calloway gave us 268.50 hrs. of her time.
- All Parks were sprayed this week for evasive weeds and mulch was raked back into the swing pits and slide landing areas.
- Plans are being set to alter the Clewiston Recreation "Fish Camp" to meet a greater audience and provide a better program for the family and kids. More information to follow.
- Weekly highlights for Clewiston Recreation:
 - CIT "Thank You" trip to SunSplash Water Park in Cape Coral on Tuesday, July 28.
 - Co-ed Adult Softball League on field #9 at Sugarland Sports Complex on Monday, July 27 (rain-out make-up games), Tuesday, July 28 and Thursday, July 30.
 - Adult Men's Basketball Leagues at Harlem Gym on Tuesday, July 28 and Thursday, July 30.
 - Aug. 1 – Seminole Tribe of Florida Public Works Dept. "Family Fun Day" at Sugarland Sports Complex.
 - Aug. 1 – Pool Party at C.S. Mott Pool 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- If you are interested in participating in an adult co-ed volleyball league this summer or youth flag football and AAU Track and Field during the late summer, please contact Andre at 983-1492.

- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- The Water/Sewer crew repaired a broken water line valve on Georgia and 11th and repaired a water leak on Georgia. They assisted South Shore Water Assoc. with 2 water taps (CR 720 and Lake Harbor), changed out a pump and repaired a line at East Trinidad lift station and are repairing some pipes at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.
- The Electric crew re-strapped the wires on the traffic light at the intersection of Margaret Street and WC Owen Avenue, repaired an underground service in Fairgrounds Trailer Park and changed out a transformer on Kentucky Avenue. Trees have been trimmed on West Pasadena, West Avenida Del Rio, and West El Paso.
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom or the City's website page www.clewiston-fl.gov. You may update your information at any time through the same link.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or call our office.
- **DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION!** Visit our office today.